

**2017 -- H 5079**

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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017**

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**H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N**

**EXPRESSING SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF ALBERT T. KLYBERG**

Introduced By: Representatives O'Grady, Costantino, Ackerman, Kennedy, and Ajello

Date Introduced: January 11, 2017

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, It is with utmost sadness that this House has learned of the passing of Albert  
2 T. Klyberg, a beloved husband and father, a prolific teacher, researcher and renowned Rhode  
3 Island historian, and the former Executive Director of the Rhode Island Historical Society; and

4           WHEREAS, Mr. Klyberg was born in 1940. Upon completion of his doctoral degree  
5 from the University of Michigan, he moved to Rhode Island, eventually making his home in  
6 Lincoln. He was the devoted husband of Beverly Klyberg and the cherished father of two  
7 children; and

8           WHEREAS, For thirty years, Al Klyberg was the Director of the Rhode Island Historical  
9 Society. During his tenure, the organization underwent rapid expansion, growing to include the  
10 Robinson Research Center, the Aldrich House on Providence's East Side, and the Museum of  
11 Work and Culture in Woonsocket; and

12           WHEREAS, Albert Klyberg's panoply of contributions to this state included serving on  
13 the Rhode Island Bicentennial Commission, teaching courses at the University of Rhode Island,  
14 Rhode Island College, Providence College, and Bryant University, and serving as the managing  
15 developer of the Museum of Work & Culture in Woonsocket. In addition, he was an incorporator  
16 of the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society, served on many local boards, including the Rhode  
17 Island Council for the Humanities, and was the author of several influential books and articles  
18 about Rhode Island; and

19           WHEREAS, Eminently respected and widely admired, Mr. Klyberg received a  
20 presidential appointment to the National Museum Services Board in 1981, and in 1986, received a

1 Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Rhode Island College. In 2003, he became the second  
2 recipient of the Tom Roberts Prize for Creative Achievement in the Humanities, and in 2014, he  
3 was inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame; and

4 WHEREAS, Al Klyberg's thirty years as Director of the Rhode Island Historical Society  
5 and his 35-year crusade to bring the story of Rhode Island's heritage to the people of Rhode  
6 Island, through a foundation that he was a leader in creating, are wholeheartedly commendable,  
7 but they were only one small portion of a life that included myriad service to others, and was  
8 aptly summed up by a colleague who stated, "There are people in this world who change the way  
9 we think about a place. Al Klyberg was one of those people ..."; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
11 Providence Plantations hereby expresses our deepest sympathies on the passing of Albert T.  
12 Klyberg. There is no doubt that this brilliant and steadfast gentleman left Rhode Island a far better  
13 place because of his life's endeavors and was an inspiration to us all; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
15 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Beverly Klyberg and Family.

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